

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

ACDA-05 OMB-01 /071 W

----- 036250

R 060941Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9892

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SEOUL 3194

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, KS

SUBJECT: KIM YONG-SAM DECLINES FRASER INVITATION

REF: SEOUL 3152

1. PRESS APRIL 5-6 REPORTS NDP PRESIDENT KIM YONG-SAM HAS DECLINED INVITATION TO TESTIFY BEFORE FRASER COMMITTEE HEARING ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN KOREA. EARLIER KIM TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT HE WOULD REGRET INVITATION (REFTEL).

2. NDP SPOKESMAN YI TAEK-TON TOLD PRESS THAT OPPOSITION WOULD NOT ANNOUNCE REASONS FOR DECISION. HOWEVER, TONGA ILBO GOSSIP COLUMN QUOTES NDP OFFICIALS AS SAYING IT NOT PROPER TIME FOR KIM TO LEAVE COUNTRY WITH MANY IMPORTANT MATTERS, SUCH AS REQUESTED MEETING WITH PRESIDENT PAK, STILL PENDING. HANKUK ILBO GOSSIP COLUMN QUOTES HIGH RANKING NDP OFFICIALS AS SAYING IT IS NOT APPROPRIATE FOR HEAD OF MAJOR OPPOSITION PARTY TO TESTIFY BEFORE U.S. CONGRESS AND THAT INVITATION ITSELF IS AN ACT OF RUDENESS.

3. PRESS REPORTS THAT ANOTHER INVITEE, KUKMIN
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UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR PAK CHONG-SU, HAS ALSO

DECLINED INVITATION STATING THAT IN LIGHT OF VIETNAM
DEVELOPMENTS, THE SITUATION IN ROK HAS CHANGED
DRASTICALLY AND THERE IS NO PRESENT NEED FOR THE
HEARINGS.

4. OPPOSITION FIGURES HAVE ON SEVERAL RECENT OCCASIONS
TOLD US THAT THEY CONSIDER INVITATION FOR POLITICAL
LEADERS SUCH AS KIM YONG-SAM TO TESTIFY BEFORE CONGRESS
TO BE IMPROPER. WE ALSO SENSE CONCERN, EVEN AMONG OPPOSITION,
AT TIMING OF HEARING IN CLIMATE OF CONCERN CREATED BY
FALL OF VIETNAM.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SEOUL03194
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750158-0364
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750577/aaaacsil.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 SEOUL 3152
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <18 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KIM YONG-SAM DECLINES FRASER INVITATION
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, KS, (KIM YONG-SAM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006